

### **Partnership Lessons from MA's State-wide CBO/FBO Grant**

#### **Why should WIBS and One-Stops partner with grassroots C/FBOs to serve Out-of-School Youth?**

- Depending on model/mission, C/FBOs have better access to population and can be more flexible in how they serve population
- C/FBOs are aware of additional resources in the community, and have a better understanding of community assets
- C/FBOs can act as liaisons between youth and One-Stops, helping youth to navigate the system, acquire eligibility paperwork, and serve as their advocates
- C/FBOs bring a creative perspective and needed approach to service delivery

#### **Why were some partnerships less successful than others?**

- Perception of youth that One-Stops are not youth-friendly
- Lack of clarity regarding roles and responsibilities
- Insufficient education and training to the C/FBOs around One-Stop operations, and WIA's guidelines and limitations
- Personality clashes, staff turnover, overworked staff, time and fiscal constraints
- C/FBOs' mission not in line with goals of initiative

#### **Why were some partnerships more successful than others?**

- C/FBOs took personal initiative to fill gaps in services and maintain relationships with youth workers at the One-Stops
- Certain C/FBOs already familiar with bureaucratic WIA system, small learning curve
- Great communication, planning, and transparency among partners
- WIB/One-Stop staff managed expectations of C/FBO partners, and C/FBO staff managed expectations of youth